

COBBETT'S WEEKLY POLITICAL REGISTER.

VOL. 52.—No. 1.] LONDON, SATURDAY, OCT. 2, 1824. [Price 1s.

TO THE KING.

LETTER II.

ON THE MEANS OF GIVING PEACE
AND CONTENT TO IRELAND, AND
OF MAKING THAT COUNTRY A
SOURCE OF STRENGTH INSTEAD
OF WEAKNESS, IN CASE OF WAR.

Kensington, 20th Sept. 1824.

SIR,

IN my former Letter, I laid before your Majesty the state of your Kingdom, compared with the state of Foreign Powers, particularly relating to the capacity of each to the making of war. I endeavoured to give your Majesty a faithful account of the state of France, our nearest neighbour and most formidable rival in point of power. I showed that a war with this country would not be likely to be productive of any harm or serious inconvenience in France; while that same war (we remaining in our present embarrassed and encumbered state)

must naturally be productive, to this kingdom, of the most serious inconveniencies, and of the greatest dangers: in short, I endeavoured to convince your Majesty, that (all our burdens and abuses remaining undiminished) the very next war must see us stripped of our maritime superiority; must see us reduced to a state of littleness, which this kingdom has never known for eight hundred years.

I had the honour to represent to your Majesty, that our situation with regard to Foreign Powers was *wholly new*; that this country had no longer the power of hiring Germans and other foreign soldiers to assist her in her wars; that her Ministers were now deprived of the means of subsidising seven hundred thousand bayonets to assist them in the "conquering of France;" that if they entered upon war again, they must rely solely upon their own battalions and their own ships; that there were no longer French and Dutch patriots to surrender fleets into



their hands without the firing of a shot; that in short, there would be nothing to purchase aid with, if another war were to arise; that there were many other circumstances in our position *entirely new*; but, that the most fearful circumstance of all was that which was presented in our situation with regard to IRELAND.

I endeavoured to describe to your Majesty the extreme peril that your European dominions would be placed in, if Ireland were to continue in its present situation until the breaking out of another war. I showed your Majesty, that the authors of the *Edinburgh Review* had very coolly observed, that they feared, that the "Navies of America and France would settle the *Catholic question*" in a way not very agreeable to your Ministers. I assured your Majesty that these gentlemen were not singular in their opinions as to this matter. I observed, the opinion was general amongst well-informed men. I observed on the melancholy prospect for the kingdom; and, Sir, what can be more melancholy than to reflect, that six millions of our fellow-subjects are looking for redress to the fleets of your Majesty's enemies?

I endeavoured, then, to show

the absolute necessity of giving peace and content to Ireland, as the great means of preparing for war; and I shall now, with all humility, point out the means which I regard necessary to effect that object. In order to do this, I must first be permitted to endeavour to describe the state of unhappy Ireland. That state is such as to be altogether without a parallel in the annals of human misery. For authorities upon this subject, I shall not go beyond the reports made to the Parliament, made to itself by its own Committees. The powers of language fail us, in endeavouring to express even a tenth part or a thousandth part of the sufferings of that people.

Before going into any particulars on the subject, I would, addressing myself to the Parliament and the Ministry, ask them how they can answer to your Majesty, for having suffered this large part of your Majesty's dominions to be reduced to such a state. Ireland yields to no part of your Majesty's territories in point of soil and of climate. It has been established by the evidence of numerous witnesses before the Committees of the Parliament, that, *generally speaking*, the land is *more fertile* in Ireland

than in England. It is a well-known fact, that the provisions for your Majesty's Navy come almost exclusively from Ireland; that Ireland supplies with food a considerable part of our Colonies; and, that England herself draws no small portion of her meat and of her bread from that same country, a large part of the people of which are half naked and half starved.

As to the character of the people of Ireland, your Majesty yourself has witnessed their ardour and their gratitude. Their quickness of conception certainly surpasses that of any people of whom I have any knowledge. They are not remarkable for the sly and selfish quality of *prudence*; but their generosity, their frankness, and, above all things, their *cheerful readiness to labour*, amply compensate for the want of that sniveling virtue, which may be the companion to all the blackest vices known to the heart of man.

For the last fifty or sixty years, the public mind in England has been, in a great measure, under the guidance of *Scotch writers*. The people of Scotland (I speak only of the place-hunting part of them) have an obvious and direct interest in decrying every thing that belongs to the Irish, whom they

incessantly represent as a set of semi-barbarians. They do this in a very artful manner; but still they do it. Sometimes they employ sarcasm: at other times, affected compassion. Thus for great numbers of years, has the Irish nation been calumniated to the people of England. Then comes a still greater misfortune to this abused people. It has been the interest of almost all the Irish writers and speakers, from the reign of Queen Elizabeth to the present day, to calumniate their own country and its people. All the profits and power of Ireland have been in the hands of a handful of men called Protestants. They could not disguise the fact of *the misery of the people*. Changed, as they naturally were, either expressly or tacitly, they have defended themselves by representing the people as being *unfit to enjoy liberty and comfortable existence*. They have sometimes represented them as *preferring rags and pig's meat*, to decent dress and food fit for human beings; and they have never failed to represent them as *slothful* in their very nature.

Never was there a fouler calumny uttered by the falsest of lips. The proofs of the falsehood of this charge are innumerable

and incontestible, and, as a disposition *cheerfully to labour* is a prime quality in any people, I shall beseech the attention of your Majesty to a few of these proofs. One would think that there needed no other proof to silence the calumniators than the facts which I have stated of the immense produce of food in Ireland, and of the supplying of that food to so many foreign parts. But, let me speak of the proofs afforded in the United States of America, where some of the finest settlements of the country have been made by Irish people alone, who have gone with scarcely a penny in their pockets, swept away the forests before them, and actually created farm upon farm and township upon township, a thing seldom to be said of the English, and never to be said of the Scotch.

But, there is the city of New York. I state it as a fact that no man who knows America will contradict, that four-fifths of all the immense labours performed in that city, which is the *third*, if not the *second*, commercial city in the whole world; I state it as undeniable fact, that four-fifths of the whole of the hard labour in that city, are performed by Irishmen. I was told by GENERAL SWARTWOUT of that city, who had taken in

large tracts of marsh land, by excluding the sea-water, that, in the executing of the great labour necessary to effect his purpose, he tried Germans, Switzers, English, Yankees, and Irish; but, that he found, at last, that when real hard labour had to be performed; when wet and cold had to be faced, none would stick by him but the Irish. As long as the weather was pretty fine, and the toils not great, he found the others good-humoured enough; but, when his works gave way, and he wanted men to go up to their middle in water, he could get none to assist him but the Irish. He told me, that a *good word* bestowed upon an Irishman, did more than a handful of dollars bestowed upon anybody else. As we stood looking at his meadows and immense embankments, he assured me in the most solemn manner, that they never would have existed had it not been for Irishmen.

In the city of New York, there are, perhaps, thousands of cars, and of car-horses, a vast proportion of which are owned by Irishmen. Irishmen load and unload the ships; they have churches in that city, to which there were, when I came from that country, fifteen thousand *communicants* belonging; a fact which I had from

the Catholic bishop himself, who had a few weeks before *arrived from Rome*, without exciting any alarm in the Government of the State, and without anybody pestering him with the subject of a "*veto*." So that there cannot be a Catholic population in New York of less than about *twenty thousand souls*, forming about a sixth part of the whole of the population of the city; while the English church, though most richly endowed, from the time of the Royal Government, cannot, I should think, boast of a third part of that number.

What I have said of the population of the Irish at New York, may be pretty nearly said of those at Philadelphia. At Baltimore, they are still more numerous, and in a higher degree of prosperity; and even at Boston, where a Catholic was formerly held in abhorrence, their number is very considerable. They everywhere yield to no part of the community in any quality which a government ought to hold in esteem; and, as to *laboriousness*, they far exceed the people of all other nations. They perform three-fourths of the heavy labour in all the *dock-yards* of America. Many of them are ship-carpenters, and smiths, and sail-makers. When I was at New

York, there was a complaint amongst the American and English ship-carpenters, that the Irish were *thrusting them out of employment*. So, here they are busily at work to complete that navy, by which the Edinburgh Reviewers fear the *Catholic question is to be settled*.

What a noble answer is this for the people of Ireland to give to the charge of slothfulness, preferred against them by their Scotch and Orange calumniators. But, Sir, if we had none of these proofs of the cheerful disposition to labour in the Irish, we have proof enough in what passes under our own eyes. They perform a very large part of the labours of the metropolis; and they come over to help to harvest the hay and the corn. They do not come to *beg*, but to work. They do not seek to live by trick; they never want to be the taskmasters of others; but want to labour themselves for the bread that they eat. It is a most curious fact, and most honourable to Ireland, that throughout the whole of the West India Colonies, and throughout the Slave States of America, there is scarcely such a thing known as an Irish *proprietor* of slaves; and, perhaps, it would be impossible to find one single Irishman in the

capacity of *slave-driver*: Oh! no: the lash is confided, or rather the *cart-whip*, as Wilberforce calls it; lash or cart-whip, or what it may be, it is confided nineteen times out of twenty perhaps to the hands of *Scotchmen*. It is the same in Virginia, in the Carolinas, and in Georgia. *Scotchmen* are, everywhere, the floggers. There is a saying amongst the negroes through the whole of these countries; "Negro man go to *debil*, if Cochman go to God;" meaning that they would go to hell rather than go where *Scotchmen* go. By way of compensation, Scotland has produced more writers to preach up *humanity* than all the other countries in the world put together; while, as far as my observation has gone, Ireland has produced scarcely a writer of that description.

Such are the people of Ireland, Sir; sometimes irregular in their conduct; seldom over prudent; but always generous, kind, and laborious. By nothing are they distinguished so much as by their cordial, ungrudging gratitude. GENERAL SWARTWOUT, who was an American, who decided upon ample experience, and who must have been perfectly impartial, described the Irish character in the short phrase, "A good word to

"them is worth more than a handful of dollars to anybody else." This is their real character. Treat them justly and kindly, and not only their labour but their lives are at your service.

What, then, Sir, can have brought such a people into that horrid situation, which has been described to us over and over again, in Reports made to the Parliament by its own Committees? Have we not a right to call upon that Parliament to answer for this situation of Ireland? It is necessary, not to go into a whole history of the sufferings of the Irish people, but to give just a specimen of the evidence, taken before the Committee of 1823, in order to show the depth of that misery, into which the Irish people have been plunged. A witness being asked to produce a representation that had been made to him, he produced a letter which had been addressed by a clergyman to the Archbishop of Tuam, which was read in the following words, and then the examination proceeded in the manner that your Majesty will see.

"My Lord, I had the honour
"and pleasure of receiving your
"Grace's letter, enclosing a letter
"from the Liverpool Committee,
"with a donation of 50*l.* for the

" relief of our starving neigh-
 " bours; it was very kind and
 " good, but it will not do; effec-
 " tual relief has not been given
 " in some public works, and uni-
 " versal employment has been too
 " long delayed; one poor crea-
 " ture who was employed by me
 " last week to amuse, but not to
 " fatigue himself, at the repairing
 " of roads, was at work on Satur-
 " day evening, *fasted I am afraid*
 " *yesterday*, Sunday, got up this
 " morning, Monday, to work, not
 " from bed, *for bed he had none*,
 " but from the ground on which
 " he slept, without bed-clothes, in
 " his daily rags; he said he felt
 " languid and sleepy, he was in
 " fact getting worse, he lay down
 " again on the *ground and died*;
 " four have died in Buffin; and if
 " *swelled limbs, pale looks, sunk*
 " *cheeks and hollow eyes*, are the
 " harbingers of death, the work of
 " death would soon be very rapid
 " in this country. I have often
 " witnessed scarcity and dearness
 " of provisions, but I never had
 " an idea of famine until now;
 " next year will be in all proba-
 " bility as bad as this, the poor
 " people of this barony at least
 " will find it so; they are so weak
 " they cannot work for themselves,
 " because they have no food;
 " they are not able to recover or

" re-mould their potatoes, and
 " they do not like the cutting turf;
 " as to the public works and gene-
 " ral employment of the poor in
 " this country, I fear it is almost
 " too late, a few more days will
 " incapacitate them for any thing
 " of the kind; I dismissed this
 " evening the three hundred men
 " whom I had employed in the
 " repairs of the road, I never wit-
 " nessed such distress as my com-
 " munication of not being able to
 " give them another day's work
 " occasioned; they said that a
 " day or two more without em-
 " ployment, that is, without food,
 " *would put an end to all their*
 " *labours.*"

" Do you receive similar com-
 " munications from other places?
 " —Yes.

" Will you have the kindness
 " to state to the Committee what
 " communication you received
 " from Sligo?—This is an extract
 " of a letter from Sligo.

" We believe multitudes of ob-
 " jects remain yet undiscovered,
 " and we fear that in another
 " month, notwithstanding our ut-
 " most efforts, the aspect will be
 " even worse than it is now: be-
 " fore their distress was published,
 " all the little furniture of their
 " cabins had been sold, even to
 " their only pot for boiling their

"provisions, and some within the
 "last day or two have been *dis-*
 "covered *stealing* for food the
 "sea-weed, which had been car-
 "ried to the fields as *manure* for
 "potatoes; it is impossible to de-
 "scribe the admiration and *grati-*
 "tude which prevails throughout
 "all classes of society here to-
 "wards their English benefactors,
 "indeed our only hope of any
 "thing like effectual relief is in
 "the liberality of British bene-
 "volence."

Did ever King before receive
 such an account of the state of his
 subjects? Other parts of the evi-
 dence, taken before the Commit-
 tee, tell us, that a large portion
 of the peasantry live in a state of
 misery, of which the witness could
 have formed no conception, not
 imagining that any human beings
 could exist in such wretchedness.
 "Their cabins scarcely contain
 "an article that can be called
 "furniture; in some families there
 "are *no such things as bed-clothes*,
 "the peasants showed *some fern*,
 "and a quantity of *straw* thrown
 "over it, upon *which they slept*
 "in their working clothes, yet,
 "whenever they had a meal of
 "potatoes they were *cheerful*;
 "the greater part, he understood,
 "to drink *nothing but water*."

Another witness says, that the la-

bourers in Ireland were always
 willing to work "for the merest
 "subsistence that could be ob-
 "tained, and at the lowest pos-
 "sible rate of wages, for *two-*
 "*pence a-day*, in short, for any
 "thing that would purchase food
 "enough to keep them alive dur-
 "ing the ensuing twenty-four
 "hours." Another witness says,
 that, "twenty-six thousand eight
 "hundred and forty-five persons,
 "in one county, most of them un-
 "fitted, by age or disease, to
 "procure by labour the means of
 "existence, were supported at an
 "expense of *not quite one penny*
 "*each per day*."

So much for the Report of 1823.
 During the last Session of Parlia-
 ment, an Irish Member said, in
 his place in the House, upon
 what he deemed good authority,
 that even the females amongst
 the labouring classes were per-
 fectly naked. His words were
 these: "They are *perfectly naked*
 "*as to clothing*, and perfectly
 "*helpless*, without any comfort or
 "convenience, or *any possible*
 "*way of gaining their livelihood*;
 "and, unfortunately, the gentry are
 "*so used to see that kind of dis-*
 "*tress*, that it *does not shock them*;
 "they see people naked, and with
 "nothing in the world but a
 "blanket to sleep on, *without a*

"*bed to lie on, and they are not aware that it is not the usual and proper way for them to exist, they are so used to see it.*"

Your Majesty must here see that you are the Sovereign of the most miserable set of people that the world ever saw. And this state of things, which has continued for a long while, it is not even proposed to change. No effectual remedy is even talked of. A sum of money is now and then voted out of the general mass of taxes, and sent over to put a stop to starvation for a while; but, at the same time there are laws to shut people up in their houses from sun-set to sun-rise, and to transport them, if they offend against these laws; to transport them without trial by jury. To be at a *disorderly house*, after a certain hour, is punished with transportation in the same way. In short, there are no people in the world, and there never have been people treated as the main body of the Irish people now are treated.

They do not submit to this treatment very quietly. They seek and they take vengeance as often as they can. The strife is very unequal; but it is incessantly going on: neither stripes, chains, or transportings put an end to this

strife. An army, altogether, not much short of *forty thousand* horse and foot, are continually in activity to prevent the flames of open war. This army is said to be in aid of the "*civil power*." That civil power, together with the army, costs more money than the whole gross amount of the revenue of Ireland; to say nothing of the votes of money occasionally made to prevent actual starvation.

If such be the expense of keeping down the Irish Catholics *in time of peace*, what must be the expense in time of war, with an American fleet hovering on the coast, and a French fleet always ready to sail from Brest or Corunna? Fifty thousand men; nay, a hundred thousand men, would not, in all probability, be sufficient to provide for the security of Ireland. Does your Majesty think that foreign nations are ignorant of those things upon which I have been observing? Your Ministers would seem to believe them to be thus ignorant. I have seen a pamphlet, entitled, "*A Statement of the Penal Laws, which agrieve the People of Ireland.*" I have been told that it has been proposed to have this pamphlet translated into French, and circulated abroad by way of *an appeal to Europe on*

the part of the Irish Catholics. And, can your Majesty think it unnatural that such an appeal should be made? No part of your Majesty's subjects are more cordially attached to your Majesty's person than the Catholics of Ireland. There are a thousand incontestible proofs of this fact. But they see that your Majesty's benevolent wishes towards them are wholly unavailing. They are steeped in misery and degradation. Your truly paternal recommendations have produced no effect in their favour. Even since the day that you were an eye-witness of their loyalty and their gratitude, the terrible law for shutting them up in their houses has been renewed. The merciless Orange faction seem to wish to exterminate them; but exterminated they cannot be, and seek redress they will from some source or other.

Ought not something to be done, then, to restore them to happiness and content? Your Majesty will say, yes; and, surely, when we have ascertained the cause of their misery and discontent, it will not be difficult to find a remedy. Let me first then be permitted to point out to your Majesty the true cause.

The immediate cause of the bodily sufferings; of the raggedness, the hunger, and the wants of all sorts of things necessary to the comfort of man; the immediate cause of these, is, the want of employment for the labouring people. The cause of this want of employment, is the want of owners of the land residing upon their estates, to give the employment. If there be, anywhere, a district of country, and, for illustration sake, let me sup-

pose the Isle of Wight: if this island contain a hundred farms, belonging to ten land-owners, who have, each of them, his mansion upon his estate; and if there be twenty clergymen, encumbents of parishes, residing upon their benefices; if this be the case, these forty gentlemen send back a large part of their rents and of their tithes into the hands of the labouring classes, by means of the employment which they give to those classes. But, if these forty gentlemen, or four-fifths of them, quit their estates and their benefices, come and reside wholly in England, or go to reside in France, the amount of the rents and tithes is nearly all drawn away from the Isle of Wight, and the labouring class, or a large part of them, are left without employment.

Generally speaking, this is now the case with regard to Ireland. This non-residence in Ireland has long existed to a certain extent; but now it has become almost universal. The beef, the pork, the bacon, the flour, and the corn, are all abundant in Ireland, we see them shipped away in prodigious quantities, while the people, by whose labour they have been raised, are driven to *steal manure to eat*, to preserve themselves from death by starvation.

What then is the cause of this destructive non-residence of the land-owners and the clergy? As to the latter, one cause of their non-residence, is, that they have no flocks; the church being *Protestant* and the people being *Catholic*. But, what should drive the owners of the land from their estates? It is a propensity so natural to man, and so well known universally to exist, to delight in

the possession of land, and to have it as much as possible under the owner's eye, that there must be some terrible cause to produce this universal non-residence.

That cause will, if the matter be well looked into, be found in the existence of the **PROTESTANT CHURCH**. The principal part of the land-owners are protestants; and, it is impossible that the feelings with regard to the protestant church should not extend themselves to them. It was wise, perhaps, to endeavour, in the first place, to make the Irish a protestant people; but that having completely failed, the Irish people having, in spite of persecutions unparalleled, continued faithful to the religion of their fathers, the attempt ought to have been abandoned.

The protestant land-owners, seeing themselves surrounded by a people who, at the very least, wish harm to them, naturally dislike their homes, and flee from them. Their estates are committed to the care of stewards, middle-men, and factors, who act towards the people like men that venture their lives for gain. The situation of Ireland, with regard to religious matters, has long been such as to render peace and content *absolutely impossible*. Not only do the catholics see the churches built by their fathers taken from them, together with all the endowments so amply provided by those fathers; not only are they compelled to yield tithes to the last potatoe to those who have taken possession of their sacred patrimony; but, they see themselves compelled to contribute towards erecting churches and parsonage-houses for those who call

them idolators, and whom they abhor.

So many acts of injustice have been committed against the catholics of Ireland, that he must be a bold man who says that he has laid his finger upon the *most unjust*. But, when we see that the protestant priesthood have suffered the churches which they took from the catholics to fall into ruins, and suffered the parsonage-houses, which they took at the same time, to become heaps of rubbish; when we see them, all the while receiving profits for a great number of years; and then see these very catholics compelled to *contribute towards the rebuilding of churches and of parsonage-houses*; when we see this, we may, I think, say that we have found the *most galling* of all the things that any people upon earth ever had to endure.

No man in his senses can hope, that while this state of things lasts there can be peace and content in Ireland; or, that the catholics will not seek for or wish for deliverance, come from what source it may. Under such circumstances, it is not to be expected that the church will collect its revenue without the aid of an armed force. That armed force is constantly at hand for the purpose, and by no means unfrequently employed. The battle of *Skibbereen*; that battle alone, ought to have been the subject of solemn inquiry before the face of the whole nation. Here is a minister of the Gospel of peace, actually going with armed men to collect his tithes from his parishioners. A battle ensues; **AND THERE ARE KILLED ON BOTH SIDES**. Is this religion? Is this the Chris-

tian religion? Are these the fruits of the preaching of Christ and of St. Paul? Such a scene was never before exhibited in the world, except in Ireland.

This source of discord and animosity is inexhaustible. The parson, the tithe-proctor, the tithe-renter, some one or other is continually in motion, and the hatred and strife is incessant. Way-layings, burglaries, plunderings and murders, are the natural consequence. The church is armed with all the powers and terror of the law; but, these only render the hatred against her more implacable. There can happen no dispute, no quarrel, into which the poison from this inexhaustible source does not infuse itself; reconciliation is utterly impossible; the cause of the animosity is in its very nature inextinguishable, as long as the parties co-exist upon the same spot, and in their present relative situation.

That which has been called *Catholic Emancipation*, would, in fact, be no emancipation at all to the great body of the Irish people. I would not, if I had the power, *prevent* it: but I am sure that it would not restore peace and content to Ireland. To do this, there is nothing short, in my opinion, of *unestablishing by law* that church which has been by law established. This would, at once, do away with all the strifes and all the murders; and Ireland would become a source of strength to us, instead of being an encouragement to our foes.

And, may it please your Majesty, where is the obstacle to the accomplishment of a thing so desirable? Cannot the Parliament with the King undo by law that

which by law they did? If the Parliament could take all the churches and all the church property from the Catholics, and bestow them upon Protestants; if they could take a full third part of the tithes and lands belonging to the church, and bestow them upon lay persons; if they could take the great tithes of *twenty parishes* in Ireland, and give them to the ancestors of the Duke of Devonshire, who at present possesses them; if they could take these immense masses of public property, and make them private property; if your Royal Father and the Parliament could alienate, for ever, a part of the church property, in England, *under the name of redeeming the land tax*; if they could interfere with the owners of benefices, and compel them to give such and such parts of their income to curates: if the King and Parliament could constitutionally do all these things, the policy of several of which is extremely doubtful, cannot your Majesty and the Parliament resume the tithes and church lands of Ireland; can you not so dispose of that mass of public property in any manner that to your wisdom may seem meet?

And, what violence, what injustice, would here be committed? The present possessors of the tithes and other church property in Ireland have no right in it but for their lives. What reason would they have to complain, if a just estimate were made, and a fair compensation afforded them. To object to this, must give us an instance of wonderful insincerity or wonderful insolence. There are ample proofs before Parliament, that there are *no Protestant flocks*.

Why, then, want to perpetuate an establishment, which, at the very least, can only annoy and irritate the people at large? In such a wish, there appears to be perverseness strongly tinged with malignity.

The *expense* of maintaining the Protestant Establishment in Ireland, is not less, take it altogether, than *six millions a year*; and, the friends of that establishment most roundly assert, that its revenue is not much above *two millions a year*. Relying, however, upon the accuracy of Mr. HUME's calculation, I take its revenue to be *three millions a year*. I would take the three millions to myself, if I were the Minister and had your Majesty's leave; I would turn them into pensions for the lives of the present possessors, and would save the other three millions. But, the church property would yield me something, though I should release the whole country from the payment of tithes. The glebes in Ireland are of enormous extent and value. Death would work for me, and I should soon pay the pensions out of the interest of the fund arising from the glebes. The Lord Chancellor might not like my plan; but I should see no harm in filling up livings and sees with my Irish pensioners, as we do, or *ought* to do, commissions in the army or navy from the list of half-pay.

Now, Sir, what injury, what act of injustice would be done to any human being, by these measures? It is easy for any one to answer this question: but to say how great would be the benefit to your Majesty and your kingdom is beyond the power of human eloquence. It would at once ex-

tinguish all the strifes and animosities in Ireland. There is nothing in the *religion* of Catholics and Protestants to prevent them from living in harmony. In America, where, as I have had the honour to observe to your Majesty before, there are thirty thousand Catholics in one single city, the difference of religion never shows itself in any of the relationships of life. In the Congress, in the State Assemblies, in the corporations, and all the numerous civil associations which exist in that country, men meet apparently wholly unconscious of each other's religion.

Your Majesty has seen, that, in the kingdom of France, Catholics and Protestants live in perfect harmony, notwithstanding the great preponderance of the former over the latter in point of numbers. It would be the obvious interest of the Catholic Church to promote peace and attachment to the Government. Freed from all the dangers attending the present state of things, the nobility would return and reside upon their estates. No people are so grateful, and so soon forgive and forget injuries as the common people of Ireland. They are not cursed with that restless ambition which cannot endure a superior; and every one that knows any thing of them will give them this character. Therefore, Ireland would resume her proper station in your Majesty's dominions at once. It would not be a work of ages to bring her back to prosperity. Your Majesty yourself would, in all probability, live to see the most miserable people upon earth rendered one of the most happy.

"*Capital*," as the Jews call it, would no longer shun Ireland

for the want of security. Real property would at once be augmented in price. France would not draw away, as she now does, a large part of the means of feeding and clothing your Majesty's subjects in Ireland. English landholders would no longer be alarmed at the invasion of Irish labourers, a change by no means unfavourable to the now unfortunate labourers of England. And, though last, by no means least, the best labourers, the most able men of Ireland, would no longer go to the United States of America to assist in the building and the manning of fleets, which the Edinburgh Reviewers fear will be employed to settle the Catholic question.

Governments, may it please your Majesty, are all prone to think much too little of the *distant consequences of their acts*. During the American rebel-war, there was a numerous corps of rebels called the Pennsylvania Line. It is acknowledged on all hands that this body of men were the main prop of the cause. This body were at one time in a state of mutiny on account of their want of pay. Sir Henry Clinton sent an invitation to them to come over and join his standard, and promised them most magnificent rewards. They rejected his offer; and told him, that though they were displeased with the Congress, they would stand true to the country and the cause. Now, it is a fact perfectly notorious in America, that full one half of this *Pennsylvania Line* consisted of Irishmen. CAPTAIN DACRES, when, after being captured, he went on board of the American frigate, saw an Irishman, formerly an English sailor, sitting upon the deck "*making buck-shot to fire at his countrymen.*"

Such, Sir, are specimens of the distant consequences of the acts of a Government. He would be a madman that would dream of seeing a battalion of Americans fighting against their country, or of seeing an American on board of an English ship, sitting coolly making buck-shot to fire at Americans. And, why should we see our fellow-subjects of Ireland thus scattered over the face of the earth to be our enemies? Is there nothing too in the continual existence of a great number of Irishmen in the United States, always harbouring the most bitter animosity against your Majesty's Government. There are Irishmen in the Congress and in all the State Assemblies. Many of them are persons of great talent and property, and of course, of great weight. As Catholics as well as Irishmen, they bear this Government implacable enmity. Every newspaper from Ireland tends to fan the flame in their bosoms. Even the sons of Irishmen who are *Catholics* still, your Majesty will be pleased to observe, cherish this never-dying resentment. They never lose their attachment to Ireland and to their religion: they resent all the wrongs inflicted upon either.

It is not easy, perhaps, to trace such feelings to their ultimate consequences; but, it is easy to perceive that the consequences, whatever they may be, must be mischievous to us; and, in the meanwhile, we can ascertain, with almost mathematical precision, the consequences of leaving the wrongs of the Catholics undressed until the breaking out of a new war. Whenever that event arrives, we shall stand in need of all our courage, all our skill, all

our undivided resources of persons and of money. To keep down Ireland with her Catholic wrongs unredressed, would require one half of our force, military and naval. Redress those wrongs, she becomes a bulwark instead of a mine. She gives us strength which we have not for ages possessed; and makes us laugh at that which we now tremble but to think of.

If your Majesty know any thing of me, (which in all human probability you do not), you will want nothing to convince you that the observations that I have thus taken the liberty to offer you, have proceeded from no other motive, than an anxious desire to see preserved and perpetuated the safety and power of England; but, at the same time I scruple not to declare, that I prefer **ANY THING**, no matter what, to the perpetuating of the power of *Boroughmongers* and *Orangemen*, deliverance from whose insolent tyranny I would seek in *any means* and from *any quarter*. I am,

Your Majesty's
Most humble and most dutiful
Subject and Servant,
WM. COBBETT.

LOUIS XVIII.

In the London Morning Chronicle, of the 15th September, there appeared an article on the conduct and character of the late King of France, which I was sorry to see in that paper, which is seldom the willing vehicle of falsehood of a malignant description. This article is, however, of that description; and, I shall endeavour to

show that this assertion of mine is true.

The former part of the article, which merely repeats the court scandal of forty years ago, is unworthy of attention, except that I must say, that, to rip up the old stories about the pretended spurious birth of the **DUCHESS D'ANGOULEME**, does seem to be any thing but *manly*, and especially as that birth is in nowise connected with the character and conduct of the late King. The stories were amongst those which were put forth during the revolution; and they are such as no candid man will pay any attention to. The following parts of the article are worthy of notice:

"Banished from Cologne by the Elector, repulsed from Vienna by the EMPEROR, MONSIEUR, then known by the title of *Count de Lille*, went first to Poland, and afterwards to Mittau. It was at this last place his great love of writing induced him to compose his celebrated letter to Napoleon, then Consul, which begun thus:—
" 'I have never confounded M. BONAPARTE with, &c. &c.' In spite of this display of fine sentiments, the King, for LOUIS the SEVENTEENTH was then dead, always laboured for his re-establishment, and the conspiracies of GEORGES, CADODAL, of PICHEGRU, of MOREAU, and of the Machine Infernale, shew what sort of means of success appeared proper to him. Those who entertain any doubt on this subject may see, in the Bulletin des Lois of 1814, the letters of Nobility granted to the family of Cadoudal, and the Ordinances prescribing the erection of statutes to Moreau and PICHEGRU.

"The Peace of Tilsit conducted all the Bourbons to England. It is useless to enter into details of the residence of LOUIS the EIGHTEENTH at Hartwell. It is enough to no-

"*tice, en passant, the gratitude which this Prince has displayed for the services performed for him by the English Government. The fall of NAPOLEON having established LOUIS XVIII. on the throne of France, he governed it in 1814, with all the folly of concealed hatred. He deserved the character that 'he had forgotten nothing and learnt nothing.' The return of BONAPARTE from the Island of Elba, made the Monarch and Court vanish in the twinkling of an eye, and the BOURBONS were forced to beg in foreign countries for the second time. On his return after the battle of Waterloo, under the protection of English and Prussian bayonets, Louis XVIII. gave himself up to all his natural cruelty. No longer afraid, he indulged in his desire of vengeance without restraint. Ney and Labedoyere preceded numerous other illustrious victims in their descent to the tomb. The famous poet Chenier said of Louis the XVIIIth, that he was Tiberius without his courage, and the 20th of March, and the vengeance of 1815, have demonstrated the correctness of this judgment.*

* * * * *

"This King's reign has lasted ten years, during the greater part of which time there have not been any remarkable events, and France has remained in a state of political abjectness, which places it in the third rank among the Powers of Europe. This period has all been occupied by miserable Court intrigues, and even the expedition to Spain was a sort of jugglery that moves our pity. Far from having put an end to the Revolution, this Prince only continued it, and this opinion is so general in Europe, that all eyes are fixed on France, and a close watch is kept on all her movements."

* * * * *

"He carried to the tomb with him the reputation of being *timid* and *insincere*. All his proceedings bear the character of *weakness* and *vanity*."

The late King is here charged with *timidity*, *weakness*, and *vanity*; with *vindictiveness* and *cruelty*; with *ingratitude towards England*; and with having, during his ten years' reign, reduced his kingdom to a state of *political abjectness*, so as to make it only a Power of the *third rank*.

These are thumping charges, especially when they come from a writer who appears to know the history of the King's conduct in the early part of the year 1803. Before that time, much was not known of his character in England; but, there then took place that which reflected more honour on him than fairly belongs to any king, and almost to any man, that has ever lived in the world. He was, at that moment, apparently at the very bottom of the wheel of fortune. The Powers of the Continent were all at peace with France. England was also at peace with her. BONAPARTE was, to all appearance, master of the whole of Europe. There appeared to be not the smallest hope for the House of Bourbon. He was hunting them from every asylum. Every government was afraid to show them the smallest countenance. In England, MONSIEUR PELTIER had been begun to be prosecuted by the Attorney-General, Perceval, for a pretended *libel* on the "*Usurper*," as he had been called, in our public prints, but a few months before. Nay, the royalists, then in England, were *about to be compelled to quit it*, in order to appease the wrath of Buonaparté,

who was First Consul, and absolute despot of France, covered with military glory, and having all the Continental Powers trembling at his nod.

At this black and dismal moment, in the month of February, 1803, Buonaparté called upon the King to make a *renunciation of his right to the throne of France*, and to cause the rest of his family to do the same. The king's brother, and some of the other branches of the family were in *England*; but the king himself was in *Poland* with his nephew, the *Duc d'Angoulême*. In *Poland* he was at the mercy of the Emperor of *Russia*, who was in strict amity with Buonaparté. The King was, by an ENVOY of a great power (which power was not named,) called upon, on the part of Buonaparté, to *renounce*, and to receive, for himself and family, *indemnities for the sacrifice*. Let the reader consider the deplorable situation of this king; let him reflect on the hopelessness of his situation; let him hear his *dignified*, his heroic rejection of the offer; and then let him, if he can, join the Morning Chronicle in saying, that the King has descended to the tomb with the reputation of being *timid and insincere, weak and vain*.

At the time when the proposal was made to the King, *England* was at peace with Buonaparté. There existed here the strongest desire to conciliate him. Our Government trembled at his name. They had begun to prosecute Monsieur PELTIER at his request. Before, however, many months had passed, we were at war with him again; and then, and not till then, this transaction became known to the world. It was made known

through the *English press*, and first, through the columns of the *Register*. The King was, by this time, safe in *England*. The documents were as follows: and, as long as these documents shall be remembered, the character of the late King of France will be held in honour.

PUBLICATION ISSUED BY MONSIEUR, BROTHER OF THE KING OF FRANCE.

MONSIEUR, brother of the King of France, has deemed it his duty no longer to remain silent respecting an important fact, of which too vague an idea has gone abroad. The variety of lights in which it has been represented, and the false reports industriously circulated by an usurped Government, imperiously require, that the opinion of the public, but more particularly that of Frenchmen, should be set right respecting the real state of the matter. Such are the reasons which at the present juncture induce Monsieur to make public certain details, which particular circumstances do not allow, however interesting they may be, to be enumerated more at length than as follows:—On the 26th February of the current year, a personage of prominent distinction, empowered by high authority, waited on the King of France at Warsaw, and verbally made to his Majesty, in terms the most respectful, but at the same time the most urgent, and, in the opinion of him who urged them, the most persuasive, the astonishing proposal to renounce the throne of France, and to require the same renunciation on the part of all the Members of the House of Bourbon: the Envoy, moreover, observed, that, as a price of the sacrifice, Buonaparté would secure indemnities to his Majesty, and even a splendid establishment. His Majesty, strongly animated by that sentiment which the hand of adversity is never able to obliterate from elevated souls, and

which makes him cling as tenaciously to his rights as he does to the happiness of France, immediately wrote the following answer, which he delivered on the 28th February to the person who was deputed to him.

ANSWER OF THE KING.

"I am far from being inclined to confound M. Buonaparté with those who have preceded him. I think highly of his valour, and of his military talents. Neither do I feel ungrateful for many acts of his administration; for, whatever is done for the benefit of my people will always be dear to my heart. He is deceived, however, if he imagines that he can induce me to forego my claims, which, besides, he himself would confirm and establish, could they be called in question, by the very step he has now taken.—I cannot pretend to know what may be the intentions of the Almighty respecting my race and myself; but I am well aware of the obligations imposed on me by the rank to which he was pleased I should be born. As a Christian, I shall continue to fulfil these obligations to my last breath. As a descendant of St. Louis, I shall endeavour to imitate his example by respecting myself, even in captivity and chains. As successor of Francis I., I shall, at least, aspire to say with him, *'We have lost every thing but our honour.'*"

At the bottom of this answer are written the following words:

"With the permission of the King, my uncle, I adhere with heart and soul to the contents of this note."

(Signed) "LOUIS ANTOINE."

(Duc d'Angoulême.)

On the 2d March, the King wrote to Monsieur, acquainting him with what had passed, and instructed him to make known the same to the Princes of the Blood who were in England, taking charge himself to inform such of them respecting it who do not reside in that country.

On the 22d April, Monsieur called a meeting of the Princes, who, with equal alacrity and unanimity, have signed the following adhesion to the answer of the King, of the 28th February:

ADHESION OF THE PRINCES.

"We, the undersigned Princes, the brother, nephews and cousins of his Majesty, Louis XVIII., King of France and Navarre, thoroughly impressed with the same sentiments with which our Sovereign Lord and King has shewn himself to be so honourably animated in his answer to the proposal made to him of renouncing the throne of France, and of requiring all the Princes of his house, in like manner, to renounce all the inexpressible claims to the succession to that same throne, DECLARE,—That, as our attachment to our rights, to our duty, and to our honour, can never permit us to forego our claims, we adhere, with heart and soul, to the answer made by our King;—That in imitation of his example, we shall not lend ourselves, in any manner whatever, to any step or proceeding that can imply on our part, a failing in what we owe to ourselves, to our ancestors, and to our descendants.—WE FINALLY DECLARE, that being fully convinced that a large majority of the French people invariably participate in all the sentiments by which we are animated, it is in the name of our loyal countrymen, as well as in our own, that we renew upon our sword, and to our King, the solemn and sacred oath, to live and die faithful to our honour, and to our legitimate Sovereign."

(Signed)

"Charles Phillippe of France.

"Charles Ferdinand of Artois, Duke of Berri.

"Louis Phillippe of Orleans, Duke of Orleans.

"Antoine Phillippe of Orleans Duke of Montpelier.

"Louis Charles of Orleans, Count of Beaujolais.

"Louis Joseph de Bourbon, Prince of Cendé.

"Louis Henry Joseph de Bourbon-Condé, Duke of Bourbon."

(Dated) "Wanstead-house,
April 23, 1803."

ADHESION OF THE DUKE OF EUGHEIN.

"SIRE, — The letter of the 2d March, with which your Majesty has vouchsafed to honour me, reached me in due time. Your Majesty is too well acquainted with the blood which flows in my veins, to have entertained a moment's doubt respecting the tenor and spirit of the answer which your Majesty calls for,—I am a Frenchman, Sire, and a Frenchman faithful to his God, to his King, and to the oaths that are binding to his honour: many others may, perhaps, one day envy me this triple advantage. Will your Majesty, therefore, vouchsafe to permit me to annex my signature to that of the Duke d'Angouleme, adhering, as I do, with him in heart and soul, to the contents of the note of my Sovereign? It is in these invariable sentiments that I remain, Sire, your Majesty's most humble, most obedient, and very faithful Subject and Servant,"

(Signed)

"LOUIS ANTOINE HENRY DE BOURBON."

(Dated) "Ettenheim, in the dominions of the Margrave of Baden,
March 22, 1803."

The adhesion of the PRINCE DE CONTI has not yet been received; but no doubt can be entertained about it. —Monsieur has since learned that on the 18th March the same Envoy, pursuant to orders which he had received, waited upon the King. There was no longer any question about the substance of his Majesty's answer, but some alterations were intimated respecting the terms in which the answer should be couched; apprehen-

sions seemed to be felt lest it should so far irritate the Usurper as to prompt him to exert his influence in order to aggravate the misfortunes of the King. His Majesty, however, observed, that he should make no alteration in his answer, which was as moderate as could be expected, and that Buonaparté could not be justified in complaining of it, since if, indeed, it had treated him as a rebel and an usurper, it would have told him no more than the truth. Upon this, certain dangers were hinted to the King.—*What dangers?* observed the King. Ill-minded persons may require that I withdraw from the asylum that is granted to me. *I shall pity the sovereign who may deem himself compelled to take such a part; and I will withdraw.* No! that is not it; but may it not be apprehended that M. Buonaparté will make it a point with certain powers to deprive the Comte de Lille of the assistance they now afford him? *I do not dread poverty. Were it necessary, I would eat black bread with my family and faithful servants; but, do not be alarmed, I shall never be reduced to that extremity. I have another resource to rely upon, which I do not think proper to resort to as long as I have powerful friends; and that is, to make known my situation in France, and to stretch out my hand, not—no, never to a government of usurpation, but to my faithful subjects; and, rely upon it, I shall soon be richer than I am now.*

The conclusion of the business was, that the Envoy carried back the answer of the King, such as it at first stood, which answer had been sent to him in the original, in case His Majesty should be inclined to make any alteration in it. I will make no commentary on this transaction. The documents speak for themselves. But, I cannot refrain from observing, that, if it had not been for the wisdom, the firmness, the real greatness of the King, the throne of France would,

in all human probability, have passed away from the Bourbons for ever. It is said, in the newspapers, that Mons^r. FRESSENON (I think that is the name) is to pronounce a *funeral eulogy* on Louis the XVIIIth. M. FRESSENON may be a very eloquent man; but, if I were the late King's brother, I would cause the above documents to be re-published; and rely upon *them* rather than upon all the *orators* in the world.

I have not room, in this Register, to notice *the other parts* of the article of the Chronicle. I will do it in my next.

EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

[THE following able Letter from Mr. Macdonnell would have appeared in the Register before, but want of room prevented its insertion. This Letter ought to be read by everybody. It is calculated to do, and will do, a great deal of good.]

To the Editor of the Morning Chronicle.

SIR—I cannot help considering it a mark of unjustifiable prejudice, that such industry as we daily notice, should be used to place the Catholic priesthood of Ireland in the most obnoxious view before the British public; and that too, for no other reason than because they refuse to place the instruction of their flocks under the direction of societies and institutions distinguished by no other peculiarity of character than their hostility to the faith professed by that hierarchy.

Had the discussion of the controversy between the venerable Head of the Catholic Church in Ireland and John M^cClintock, Esq. been confined to that country, I should not have thought it necessary to trouble you with any communication; but as some of the London prints have

availed themselves of this opportunity for the purpose of more extensive crimination, I request your permission to state some facts and observations respecting the general system of education in Ireland.

The Catholics of Ireland may be fairly computed to amount to six millions, at the least; and if those persons are to be considered the members of a church, who profess its doctrines, are subject to its discipline, recognise the spiritual government of its hierarchy, join in its worship, and confine themselves thereto, as sufficient, in their estimation, for their religious ends; if such be the true marks of the members of any Christian communion, I apprehend it will not be denied that the Catholics of Ireland constitute, at this day, the most numerous religious class in this United Kingdom. I do not desire to make any other use of this fact than as a justification for my position, that it is unreasonable and presumptuous for any individuals or societies, of different, and still more, when of opposite and hostile principles, to expect that this large community should submit to be governed by them in the important cares of the religious and general instruction of their youth.

Such pretensions would not be endured for a moment by any other religious body in this United Kingdom; and yet it is because the Catholic Clergy and Laity of Ireland do not submit, without complaint, to this intolerant assumption, that an outcry is raised against them, and it is vehemently insisted that the education and instruction of the Catholic youth of Ireland should not be entrusted to their parents or their pastors, or any other members of the same communion, but be confided to every enthusiast, bigot, mountebank, or officious old lady that may please to occupy or amuse themselves with such cares.

In Catholic France, where the Protestants form about 1-57th part of the population, the instruction of their

youth is not controlled by any Catholic authority. This just and reasonable principle is extended also to the Jews in that country; and, accordingly, it is provided by a Royal Ordinance respecting that community, dated 20th of August, 1823, published in the *Moniteur*, September 13th (Article 18). "Il ne pourra être employé dans les écoles primaires aucun livre qui ne soit approuvé par la Consistoire Central, du consentement des grands Rabbins."

—Such a provision is liberal and just; yet, it is desired to except the Catholics of Ireland from the operation of this principle, which is extended to the Protestant and the Jew in France.

I have used some diligence in endeavouring to ascertain the real characters and objects of the several societies or institutions pretending to be engaged in promoting the instruction and improvement of the poor in Ireland. It is a matter of public notoriety, that motives of bigotry and proselytism have been imputed to them, and that, on the other hand, solemn protestations of pure, disinterested, Christian benevolence were promulgated on their behalf. It appears to me, that those protestations are not justified by the facts; that, on the contrary, the management of those societies is uniformly influenced by an Anti-Catholic, proselytising spirit, to which all their proceedings are made subservient; that some of them resort to the most unworthy means to attain these ends, particularly by the industrious dissemination of gross, and too often wilful misrepresentations, as well of their own progress, as of the principles and deportment of the Catholic clergy and laity of Ireland, which they circulate through the medium of Reports, Appendixes, Magazines, Tracts, and other occasional publications, and also the speeches and conferences of their members, agents, or emissaries. That these and other impositions appear to be practised upon the British public, for the purpose of obtaining contributions, either by

collections or Parliamentary aids; that public confidence has been abused, and some public funds perverted from their original purposes, in order to indulge the factious spirit of some of those societies; that others make out their accounts and returns in a confused and deceitful manner, in order, as it would appear, to evade the detection of their real designs; that accounts are stated in which the most important items are untruly set forth, although purporting to be vouched by all the forms of a rigorous audit; and, finally, that some of these publications, particularly prepared and put forth for circulation as moral tracts, abound with falsehood, and breathe a factious and unchristian spirit; while others, designated as religious, are most disgusting and revolting compositions, directly tending to bring into contempt and disrepute the whole Christian system, its divine founder, and the sacred Scriptures.

It further appears, that in order to cover their machinations, they admit some occasional deviations from their general course, and that there subsists among many of them a systematic intercourse and confederacy, by means whereof they are enabled to expend through the agency of one, the public funds entrusted to another; and thus to establish and preserve one vast machine, composed of many and complex instruments, all operating to the same end.

I find that with some limited exceptions, the whole of the Parliamentary grants for the sustenance of schools and education in Ireland, amounting this year, to 105,277*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* Irish currency, is confided, directly or indirectly, to anti-Catholic Managers, principally under the direction of the Members of one or other of those Societies; and that the applications from Catholics to the Legislature for a participation in those funds were rejected, almost with contumely. I observe, also, that the British contributions, estimating them at the same amount as

in the last year, would raise the funds placed at the disposal of those societies and institutions, for this single year, 1824, to nearly, if not fully 200,000*l.* to be expended in the promotion of their sinister projects. Now, Sir, it is known that the great mass of the Irish population is grievously afflicted by all the miseries incidental to a state of wretched destitution, and a strong sense of past injuries and neglects. Without any temporal comfort, and but ill provided with the bare necessities of life, the only possession now left to them is that which neither the confiscations of intolerance, the inquisitions of despotism, nor the vulture-grasp of the task-master or the tithe-proctor could reach, namely, their religious principles and attachments; and it seems resolved upon to prevent their peaceful enjoyment of even this last—and not the less cherished because it is the last—relic of their ancient fortunes. Be assured that the teasings and thwartings to which the feelings of that sensitive people are subjected by those uncharitable societies, uniformly produce irritation, discord, and discontent, and directly tend to make the British name abhorred in places where it would otherwise be esteemed and extolled, with genuine sentiments of fraternal gratitude, in return for the liberal aid even once contributed in the hour of their distress. It should be the fixed resolve, as, in my judgment it is obviously the policy and the duty of any Administration, anxious for the conservation of public order and the cultivation of national harmony, to discountenance such proceedings as the sources of great and general mischief; for so long as these seditious obtrusions prevail, it will be impossible for any Irish Government, whoever may preside over it, to conciliate public feeling, enjoy public confidence, or secure the public weal.

I do not, by any means, desire to impute to every individual connected with those societies, a spirit of bigoted

malevolence. On the contrary, I believe that a large majority of their contributors, and managers, and even officers in Great Britain, may be influenced by purely benevolent motives, and should be considered as unconscious victims of too credulous a confidence in the representations of others, rather than voluntary crusaders against their Catholic fellow-subjects in Ireland. If they read the public journals of that country, they must now be satisfied that all that has been stated about the opposition of the Catholic Clergy to the instruction of the poor was utterly unfounded, for that no class of his Majesty's subjects in either country has been so zealously engaged in the diffusion of that blessing; and surely they must be aware that Great Britain furnishes a more ample field than Ireland for any British Philanthropist, whose real desire is to promote Christian improvement, and not to indulge in anti-Catholic bigotry. For, it is a curious fact, that while one of those societies, when referring to Ireland, laments that "a people so near *the centre of light* should be involved in thick darkness," (Report of the Irish Society of London for 1823, page 7,) others deplore with equal solemnity the darkness that obscures this same "*Centre of Light*."—The Reports and Magazines and other publications of the several "Home Missionary" and "Itinerant Societies" abound with such representations. I shall make some extracts, in order to satisfy our goodly evangelizers that they may find abundant occupation at home, where their labours may be directly applied to their objects, and there is no reason to apprehend any obstructions to their operations from the existence of any previous religious predilections or prejudices. I proceed, at once, to the extracts:—

"There are among us those not less in *darkness* and ignorance than those that are to be found in the Pagodas of China, or who, amidst the deepest wilds of Indian forests, sacrifice their

children, or prostrate themselves before demons, at whom they tremble, but whom, as gods, they adore." *Home Missionary Mag. Jan. 1820*, p. 22. Speech of John Wilks, Esq. Chairman at a Home Missionary Meeting.

At the same Meeting, the Rev. Mr. Irons stated—"In our own country there were MILLIONS whose consciences were *never* appealed to by faithful ambassadors, and who *never* heard of the Prince of Life." The Rev. Mr. Evans stated, "that he had travelled through districts of twenty miles, without a single school for religious instruction." The Rev. Mr. White observed, "He had preached among the villages, and knew their state—a state of the greatest ignorance, and of the most awful immorality." The Rev. E. A. Dunn "contended that he was the greatest patriot, who endeavoured to remove the *darkness* and depravity which had so long degraded the inhabitants of our native villages."

At the first Annual Meeting of the Parent Home Missionary Society, held May 15, 1820, the Rev. J. Leifchild exclaimed, "O! where is the man who can think, without pain, that in this land of Goshen there should still be *so many* places shut up in miserable *darkness*!" (*Home Missionary Magazine*, June, 1820, page 145).—In the Report read at that meeting, it is stated, in reference to "Northumberland, Cumberland, Durham, and part of Lancashire," that, "*Darkness* covers this part of England, and gross *darkness* the people" (page 2); that "the more internal parts of Northumberland are awfully destitute, and the people are living in the greatest darkness and wickedness" (page 3); that the County of Worcester "has been termed the garden of England, but in a moral light, it may be regarded as a waste, howling wilderness" (page 4); and again, "Another highly respected Minister writes, this part of the Island (Worcestershire and Hertfordshire) is, I believe, one

of the darkest districts you will meet with," (p. 4). Staffordshire is stated to contain three hundred thousand inhabitants, *one half* of whom "are distributed over the whole space of the county, in small villages and hamlets, the greater part of whom are in a state to excite our commiseration. They sit in darkness, and the gloomy shades of over-spreading death" (page 4, 5). Again, "Oxfordshire presents but a dreary desert" (page 5), and a moral wilderness of awful dimensions" (page 7). As to a part of Berkshire, it is stated, "no one unacquainted with similar scenes, can form an adequate idea of the extreme ignorance of the inhabitants of those villages" (page 5). The writer adds, "not only these villages, but a number of others near us, are similarly situated: in one of them the villagers are in a state of *complete mental darkness*" (page 6).

The succeeding Annual Reports contain similar representations. The Rev. Thomas Sharp, in his Report of Devonshire, says, "Alas! I can hardly suppress the rising tear, when I look eastward, and westward, and southward, beyond the sphere of my labours; for there are thousands and tens of thousands yet untaught. Much remains to be done even in the North of Devon, many a dark corner to be illuminated: many *British heathen* to be instructed" (Second Report of the Home Missionary Society, page 12.) The framers of this Report state, that Mr. Sparks preached in four places, which "were mere moral wildernesses, and knew nothing of Evangelical truth" (page 14). They refer to numerous tracts of country which present scenes of moral desolation" (page 18), and they add, that "thousands of their countrymen and countrywomen are perishing for lack of knowledge" (page 22). In conclusion, they observe, "an immense forest of destitute spots appears before us, the moment we cast our eyes on the map of our country . . . *Every where* our Missionaries are

ready to weep over the spiritual desolation around them" (page 23).

In the Third Annual Report, it is observed, that there are in the neighbourhood of the Missionaries, "one hundred and forty-five villages, containing an awfully ignorant population of more than sixty thousand souls" (page 21); and it is added, "if such be the ascertained state of the villages in the neighbourhoods of the Missionaries, *what vast multitudes would be found to claim your Christian compassion*, were a correct estimate to be made of their condition throughout the kingdom?" It is further distinctly asserted, that "none but those who have taken the trouble to explore the village population, can possibly conceive of their wretched state of ignorance, and of the degree of vice that prevails among them." One of the Missionaries, on entering on his station, complains of "numbers greatly increased, moral degradation unusually deepened, ignorance with insensibility united, wickedness blended with every vice, and heightened into barbarity of manners" (p. 24); another says, "I verily believe that this is the worst place under the heavens: for men, women, and children, seem to glory in blaspheming the name of the Lord." (p. 25.) Another tells the Committee, "that his station exceeds every thing he ever witnessed for wickedness; for cock-fighting, bull-baiting, quarrelling, drunkenness, and lewdness, *generally prevail*;" (p. 25.) and the Committee emphatically adds, that "these are a few out of many facts that are to be gathered from the journals of the Missionaries;" (p. 25) and they also state, "If more were needed to awaken your feelings, tales of ignorance could be related that would rend your hearts." (p. 31.)

In the Fourth Annual Report, it is admitted, notwithstanding all their evangelizing labours, that "Infidelity, like a mighty flood, has been devastating society with the most awful errors, and moral abominations."

Their Fifth Annual Report, adopted 5th May last, breathes the same desponding tones. The following paragraph may be taken as a specimen:—"Some of the Missionaries yet *mourn*. Mr. Drury laments the state of his neighbourhood in Sussex, and Mr. Hardy still *sighs over Herefordshire*." The latter says, "But a few years ago—a cloud of *darkness—thick darkness*, as the valleys of the shadow of death, hung over the people, and there was scarcely a ray of Gospel light to cheer the moral gloom. Sin abounded, and death reigned; and while the tears of affection fell over the graves of departed relatives, *no man cared for their souls*. Blessed be God! the scene is somewhat altered, and here and there is a rising light in the *darkness*, but it is painful indeed to witness so great a proportion of our fellow-immortals *yet in the hand of the enemy*."

The Reports of the Baptist Home Missionary Society are all in the same strain. I shall trouble you only with very few extracts from one of them—that for 1822—being the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of their operations. They say—"It is lamentable to reflect on nearly one hundred villages in the county (Hampshire,) and on its borders, still destitute; the moral degradation, mental *darkness*, and spiritual wretchedness of which are scarcely conceivable; *an ignorance of the only way of salvation exists as deplorably as among Pagans who never heard of the Bible*," (page 5.) Again, the Committee "cannot refer to the counties of Warwick, Worcester and Hereford, without expressing the deepest regret, that where a kind Providence has clothed the face of nature with its richest verdure, and rewarded the toil of the husbandman with the most abundant produce, the basest ingratitude should be cherished, and immorality indulged in its grossest forms" (page 8.) In St. Mary's, Scilly, at the commencement of our Missionary labours, "but two persons could read the alphabet" (page

13); and at St. Martin's, for the space of six years, "Sermons, Bibles, Schools and Tracts seemed all like showers upon sand" (page 13). On St. Agnes "the people are deplorably ignorant" (page 13). In conclusion, the Committee states, "There are *thousands of villages* within the limits prescribed by your regulations, where the joyful sound of a preached Gospel is *never heard*" (page 15). So much for the "CENTRE OF LIGHT!!"

Most sincerely do I trust that the picture is too highly coloured. But I put it to any man of common sense or common honesty, to say whether it is consistent or decent for the inhabitants of such a country to pretend to the religious guidance of any other Christian people, until, at least, they shall have effected some reformation and diffused some instruction in their own immediate homes? Was ever the divine rebuke of Hypocrisy more perfectly illustrated? "And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but perceivest not the beam that is in thine own eye?"—Those statements must be either true or false. If true, they prove that England furnishes an ample field for the constant occupation of all our evangelizing male and female, lay and ecclesiastical, missionaries, preachers, orators, associations, societies, auxiliaries, *et hoc genus omne*; and that there exists at home a greater necessity for the diffusion of light and the reformation of manners generally, than in any other part of this United Kingdom. Therefore it is quite impossible that the selection of Ireland for their operations, in preference to their own native country, their friends, and their neighbours, can be founded upon pure, disinterested charity, or upon any other notion than the unhallowed longing to indulge an anti-Catholic proselytising spirit. If, on the other hand, the statements be all false, which would be a conclusion much too violent and audacious for me to form, particularly as I am not aware that they have been contradicted, such mis-

representations should be noticed, as a caution to the British public against confiding in the calumnious allegations made as to the principles, condition and character of their Catholic fellow-subjects in Ireland, who, being absent and distant, are at least equally exposed to the interested artifice and calumny of their enemies, as the Laity and Clergy of the Established Church can be in England. It is perhaps worthy of notice, that those statements prove two things of material consequence—1st That the distribution of Bibles and Tracts will not, of itself, suffice for the religious and moral instruction of the people, for I make no doubt that very many millions and tens of millions of Bibles, Testaments, and Tracts, have been circulated throughout those destitute districts, within the last twenty years. 2d. They refute the position, so often repeated at the Biblical Meetings, that the temporal prosperity of this country is a mark of its evangelical purity; for, we have seen it distinctly stated, that the greatest prosperity prevails in those districts where the inhabitants are represented to be most destitute of religious, moral, or literary instruction.

I do not believe that the public, either in Great Britain or Ireland, is generally informed of the several societies and institutions engaged in this comprehensive and most notable scheme of evangelization or proselytism in Ireland. I cannot pretend to have explored them all; on the contrary, I am certain that I have not, but I shall recapitulate some of them, viz:—

1. The London Hibernian Society.
2. Kildare-street Society.
3. Irish Society of London.
4. Irish Evangelical Society.
5. Baptist Irish Society.
6. Society for Promoting the Principles of the Reformation in Ireland.
7. Religious Tract Society.
8. Religious Tract and Book Society for Ireland.

9. London Auxiliary Society in aid of Tract and Book Society.
10. Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society.
11. Sunday School Society for Ireland.
12. Sunday School Union.
13. Commissioners of Lord Lieutenant's Fund.
14. British and Foreign Bible Society.
15. British and Foreign School Society.
16. Prayer-book and Homily Society.
17. Naval and Military Bible Society.
18. Hibernian Bible Society.
19. Ladies' Hibernian Female School Society.
20. British and Irish Ladies' Society.
21. Charter Schools of Ireland.
22. Schools of Royal Foundation.
23. Schools of private foundation, but under the superintendence of the Commissioners.
24. Diocesan Schools.
25. Parochial Schools.
26. Military Schools.
27. Naval School.
28. Jail and Hospital Schools.

There are, besides, hundreds and thousands of auxiliary societies and associations, male and female, with a variety of fantastical names, in connexion with several of those Parent Societies; indeed, if their own Reports be correct, there is scarcely a district in the United Kingdom that does not contribute to one or more of them; and, perhaps, the most curious fact of all is this, that there is not a single Catholic Society formed in any part of Ireland to counteract or oppose them, which is entirely owing to that consciousness of security with which the Catholics of that country confide in the religious fidelity and diligence of their Clergy, in which they are well justified by the total failure of the scheme, except in the seditious annoyance and occasional agitation of the peasantry.

When such hostile confederacies are formed against themselves and their flocks on the one hand, and such confidence is reposed in them by those flocks on the other hand; and, still more, when positive acts of aid and indications of patronage oblige us to conclude that this mischievous system is much favoured by some of the superior authorities of the State; is it, under such circumstances, reasonable to complain of the Irish Catholic Hierarchy, because they watch the movements and operations of those societies with anxiety, jealousy, and utter distrust? Would they not, rather, subject themselves to the just imputation of a culpable indifference, or a violation of their most important duties, if they were to act in any other way? I apprehend that every unprejudiced mind will concur with this view of their conduct; and I conclude by stating, that I am much inclined to believe that very few, if any, amongst them or their flocks have been aware of the extent, the power, the funds, the patronage, the systematic organization, or the active energy of that Anti-Catholic alliance which is daily and hourly prosecuting its schemes against them. I am, Sir,

ENEAS MACDONNELL.

JUSTICE HANSON,
OF HAMMERSMITH,
AND
FONTLEROY THE BANKER.

I see, relative to these personages, an article in the newspapers which I will notice in my next.

SUBSCRIPTION FOR BYRNE.

	£	s.	d.
Homo	1	0	0
Mr. Wright	1	0	0
Mr. Francis Cousins	0	5	0
A. D. M.	1	0	0
Crispin	0	2	6
Colonel Johnson, M. P.	4	0	0
Wm. Harvey		0	0
James Occleston		0	0

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Many thanks to J. F. about *Trees*. I shall not fail to endeavour to profit from his advice.

The two excellent Letters of "A LOVER OF JUSTICE" shall appear next week.

I have my eye on the famous *Debate at Cork*, and I am contriving how I shall publish the whole of it.

MARKETS.

Average Prices of CORN throughout ENGLAND, for the week ending 13th September.

	Per Quarter.	s.	d.
Wheat	53	11	
Rye	29	7	
Barley	31	5	
Oats	21	11	
Beans	35	4	
Peas	34	6	

Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.

Quantities and Prices of British Corn, &c. sold and delivered in this Market, during the week ended Saturday, 18th September.

Qrs.	£.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat.. 8,206 for 23,063	18	7	Average,	56	2
Barley.... 76....	120	14	0.....	31	9
Oats.... 2,329....	2,683	11	7.....	23	0
Rye 28....	47	12	0.....	34	0
Beans .. 782....	1,423	8	9.....	36	4
Peas.... 537....	1,101	10	6.....	41	0

Friday, Sept. 24.—The quantities of all sorts of English Grain this week are only small, but the arrival of fo-

reign Oats is immense. Wheat finds buyers on full as good terms as Monday last. Barley is rather dearer. Beans and Peas are unaltered. Oats are sold with great difficulty to-day, and the prices are declined 1s. per quarter. Flour is unaltered.

Monday, Sept. 27.—The arrivals of all sorts of English Grain last week were only middling, but the supply of foreign Oats was immense. This morning the quantities of Corn fresh up are again inconsiderable. The Wheat trade commenced brisk, and the best samples were 1s. to 2s. per quarter higher than this day se'n-night, but the trade afterwards became more slack, and closed at only about 1s. improvement on the currency of this day se'n-night. The price of Flour is unaltered.

Barley is scarce, and the few new samples that appeared to-day were eagerly purchased at a very considerable advance. Boiling Peas come so sparingly, that a further advance of 3s. to 4s. per quarter is obtained. Grey Peas are more plentiful than of late, and have declined in value 1s. per quarter. Beans are scarce, and 1s. to 2s. per quarter dearer. Last week the largest supply of foreign Oats came in that ever arrived in one week, and the prices of foreign samples are declined 2s. per quarter, and of English 1s. per quarter, with an extensive sale.

Price on board Ship as under.

Wheat, red, (old)	44s. to 62s.
— white, (old)	48s. — 68s.
— red (1824)	44s. — 50s.
— fine	52s. — 56s.
— superfine	58s. — 60s.
— white	45s. — 48s.
— fine	50s. — 60s.
— superfine	62s. — 66s.
Flour, per sack	50s. — 55s.
— Seconds	45s. — 50s.
— North Country ..	42s. — 45s.

ACCOUNT OF WHEAT, &c. ARRIVED IN THE PORT OF LONDON,
From September 20 to September 25, both inclusive.

Whence.	Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.	Beans.	Flour.
Aberdeen .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Aldbro'	465	....	....	....	51	....
Berwick	12	....	....	....	....	....
Boston .....	....	....	....	890	....	....
Bridlington .....	....	....	....	370	....	....
Bridport	17	....	....	....	....	....
Carmarthen .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Clay .....	....	....	150	....	....	179
Cowes .....	....	....	5	....	....	....
Dunbar	300	....	....	....	....	....
Dundee	60	....	....	....	....	....
Colchester	201	20	220	....	130	910
Harwich	261	....	194	....	65	322
Leigh	644	....	....	....	5	....
Maldon	689	110	....	20	188	1022
Exeter .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Gainsbro' .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Hastings	54	....	....	....	....	....
Hull .....	....	....	....	500	....	....
Inverness .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Ipswich	286	140	1229	20	275	320
Kent	610	....	....	20	41	1085
Leith	22	....	....	....	110	....
Louth .....	....	....	....	250	....	....
Lynn .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Peterhead .....	....	....	....	300	....	....
Plymouth .....	....	90	....	....	....	....
Portsmouth	69	....	....	....	....	....
Rye	15	....	....	....	....	....
Southwold	359	....	10	....	29	....
Stockton .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Weymouth .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Wells .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Wisbeach	280	....	....	....	....	....
Woodbridge .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Yarmouth	205	52	598	10	....	3284
Limerick .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Sligo .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Waterford .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Youghall .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Foreign	145	....	....	133044	....	7186
Total	5300	412	2406	135424	894	7113 7186

Aggregate Quantity of other kinds of Pulse imported during the Week:

Rye, 37 ; Pease, 950 ; Tares, 64 ; Linseed, 4489 ; Rapeseed, 1363 ;

Brank, — ; Mustard, 240 ; Flax, — ; and Seeds, 490 quarters.

Total Quantity of Corn returned as Sold in the Maritime Districts, for the Week ended Sept. 18.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat ..	28,106	Oats	8,185
Rye	329	Beans.....	1,056
Barley ..	1,469	Peas.....	544

Monday, Sept. 27.—We had not any arrivals last week from Ireland. We had from Foreign Ports 7,005 casks of Butter.

City, 29th September, 1824.

BACON.

Very little doing in this article: the Cheesemongers are waiting for a supply of *new*. Landed, 54s. to 56s.

BUTTER.

The quality of the Dutch being inferior, the consumption of Irish is of course increased: and an advance of price has been the consequence.—On Board: Carlow, 81s. to 83s.; Waterford, 78s. to 79s.—Landed: Carlow, 84s. to 86s.; Waterford, Dublin, Cork, or Limerick, 81s. to 82s.; Dutch, 86s. to 88s.

CHEESE.

As we predicted, the result of Reading Fair has been an advance in prices here; but we doubt whether the advance here will be sufficient to answer the purpose of the factors; who have been giving exorbitant prices all over the country, in consequence of the facility with which they got rid of their Cheese at the Fair.—Old Cheshire, or Cheddar, 84s. to 90s.; New, 66s. to 68s.; Double Gloucester, 60s. to 68s.; Single, 50s. to 58s.

A failure has taken place in Belfast, of a House of long standing hitherto, and of great respectability. It is said, that they owe a very large sum of money, and that they have

not more than about 2s. 6d. in the pound. It is a general complaint, that there is too little money employed in trade: how can it be otherwise when men, not only without capital, but insolvent to the amount of *tens of thousands*, can go on *unsuspected*. Their acceptances, when once in credit, supply the place of real money; and as they have nothing to lose, they are not under those restraints which prevent men of capital from engaging in hazardous undertakings. Among the sufferers in this case, are, we understand, the Agents of the parties here.

Price of Bread.—The price of the 4lb. Loaf is stated at 9½d. by the full-priced Bakers.

SMITHFIELD, Monday, Sept. 27.

Per Stone of 8 pounds (alive).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	3	4	to	4 0
Mutton.....	3	10	—	4 4
Veal	4	6	—	5 6
Pork	4	0	—	6 0
Lamb.....	4	0	—	5 2
Beasts	3,243		Sheep ...	21,970
Calves....	212		Pigs.....	190

NEWGATE, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	2	8	to	3 8
Mutton.....	3	0	—	4 0
Veal	3	4	—	5 4
Pork	4	4	—	6 4
Lamb.....	4	0	—	5 0

LEADENHALL (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	2	8	to	3 8
Mutton.....	3	2	—	4 0
Veal	3	4	—	5 4
Pork	4	0	—	6 0
Lamb.....	3	4	—	5 0

POTATOES.

SPITALFIELDS—per Ton.

Ware.....	£2	5	to	3	10
Middlings..	1	15	—	2	0
Chats	1	15	—	0	0

BOROUGH.—per Ton.

Ware.....	£3	5	to	4	0
Middlings ..	1	15	—	2	0
Chats.....	1	10	—	1	15

HAY and STRAW, per Load.

Smithfield.—Hay .. 60s. to 84s.
 Straw...46s. to 50s.
 Clover.. 90s. to 100s.

St. James's.—Hay.....67s. to 111s.
 Straw...54s. to 66s.
 Clover 100s. to 125s.

Whitechapel. Hay .. 70s. to 110s.
 Straw. 50s. to 56s.
 Clover. 80s. to 126s.

COUNTRY CORN MARKETS.

By the QUARTER, excepting where otherwise named; from Wednesday to Saturday last, inclusive.

The Scotch Markets are the Returns of the Week before.

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.			Beans.			Pease.		
	s.	to	s. d.	s.	to	s. d.	s.	to	s. d.	s.	to	s. d.	s.	to	s. d.
Aylesbury	48	72	0	33	38	0	21	23	0	40	42	0	37	40	0
Banbury	56	64	0	35	32	0	24	27	0	42	45	8	0	0	0
Basingstoke	50	64	0	33	38	0	24	26	0	38	44	0	0	0	0
Bridport.....	52	58	0	28	30	0	23	27	0	40	42	0	0	0	0
Chelmsford.....	54	66	0	33	40	0	22	27	0	36	40	0	35	38	0
Derby	58	65	0	32	45	0	23	28	0	38	45	0	0	0	0
Devizes.....	40	70	0	37	0	0	25	30	0	40	46	0	0	0	0
Dorchester.....	48	64	0	25	30	0	21	26	0	35	40	0	0	0	0
Exeter.....	60	68	0	32	35	0	16	20	0	48	0	0	0	0	0
Guildford.....	52	70	0	33	32	0	25	29	0	38	43	0	37	40	0
Henley	50	63	0	32	36	0	22	26	0	38	42	0	40	0	0
Horncastle.....	50	60	0	32	38	0	16	22	0	40	42	0	0	0	0
Hungerford.....	44	66	0	27	38	0	22	28	0	38	48	0	0	0	0
Lewes	54	60	0	34	0	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	36	0	0
Lynn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Newbury	54	69	0	34	40	0	24	31	0	44	46	0	38	42	0
Newcastle	46	66	0	28	32	0	25	29	0	36	42	0	38	44	0
Northampton....	52	60	0	34	35	0	23	27	0	42	0	0	0	0	0
Nottingham	56	0	0	40	0	0	23	0	0	38	0	0	0	0	0
Reading	48	73	0	33	40	0	23	28	0	41	44	0	35	40	0
Stamford.....	46	63	0	35	40	0	20	28	0	40	42	0	0	0	0
Swansea	56	0	0	25	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Truro	57	0	0	30	0	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uxbridge	48	74	0	33	38	0	23	29	0	34	40	0	38	42	0
Warminster.....	44	64	0	27	40	0	24	30	0	40	50	0	0	0	0
Winchester.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yarmouth.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dalkeith*	24	30	0	23	25	0	13	19	0	17	19	0	17	19	0
Haddington*	17	28	6	19	24	6	14	22	0	16	20	0	16	20	0

* Dalkeith and Haddington are given by the *boll*.—The Scotch *boll* for Wheat, Rye, Pease, and Beans, is three per cent. more than 4 bushels. The *boll* of Barley and Oats, is about 6 bushels Winchester, or as 6 to 8 compared with the English *quarter*.

Liverpool, Sept. 21.—The weather since this day se'nnight continued favourable for the completion of harvest, but the arrivals of Grain having been moderate, there was a fair demand during the week for old and new Wheat and Oats, and indeed for Grain generally. New Wheat throughout that period experienced an advance of 1*d.* to 2*d.* and old 3*d.* per 70 lbs. Late prices were barely obtained for New Oats, although old ones improved in value 1*d.* to 1½*d.* per 45 lbs. The stock of new Wheat at this day's market was materially increased by the arrivals of yesterday from Ireland, for which there being a good demand, nearly the whole was taken off, together with a fair portion of good old Wheat at the advance noted, of which fine old foreign and Irish Oats proportionably participated. Prices remain unaltered for other articles of the trade, there having been but little business done in them this day.

WHEAT, per 70lbs.				OATS, per 45lbs.				FLOUR, per 280lbs.									
s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.							
English	7	3	to 9	0	English	2	10	—	3	0	English	45	0	—	50	0	
Scotch	7	3	—	9	0	Scotch	2	10	—	3	0	Irish per					
Welsh	7	3	—	9	0	Welsh	2	10	—	3	0	280lbs.	41	0	—	48	0
Irish	5	4	—	7	3	Irish	2	5	—	2	10	OATMEAL, 240lbs.					
— new	7	9	—	8	2	— new	3	2	—	3	5	English	28	0	—	30	0
BARLEY, per 60lbs.				BEANS, per qr.				INDIAN CORN per									
English	4	4	—	4	6	English	35	0	—	40	0	quar.	34	0	—	36	0
Scotch	4	0	—	4	3	Scotch	33	0	—	38	0	RAPE SEED, per					
Welsh	4	0	—	4	3	Irish	33	0	—	38	0	last	£22.				
Irish	3	9	—	4	0	Dutch	33	0	—	38	0						
MALT.				PEASE, per qr.													
Per 9 gal.	8	0	—	8	9	Boiling	40	0	—	44	0						
						Grey	30	0	—	32	0						

Imported into Liverpool from the 14th to the 20th September, 1824, inclusive:—Wheat, 9,699; Barley, 94; Oats, 5,063; and Malt, 30 quarters. Flour, 1,311 sacks, of 280 lbs. Oatmeal, 212 packs, per 240 lbs. American Flour, 1 barrel.

Bristol, Sept. 25.—The supply of Corn, &c. at this place is rather limited, but a much better is expected in a short time.—Best Old Wheat from 7*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* 9*d.*; inferior old ditto, 4*s.* 6*d.* to 6*s.* 3*d.*; New Wheat, 6*s.* to 7*s.* 3*d.*; Barley, 2*s.* 3*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*; Oats, 2*s.* to 3*s.* 2*d.*; Beans, 3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* 3*d.*; and Malt, 5*s.* to 7*s.* 6*d.* per bushel. Flour, Seconds, 30*s.* to 48*s.* per bag.

Birmingham, Sept. 23.—Weather very rainy. Supplies short, and prices of every kind of Grain, Flour, &c. on the advance. Tares in good request, realizing 7*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* per bushel: but few at market.

Ipswich, Sept. 25.—We had to-day a pretty good supply of Wheat and Barley, and sold at high prices, as follow:—Wheat (New), 52*s.* to 63*s.*; ditto (Old), 44*s.* to 58*s.*; Barley (New), 32*s.* to 39*s.*; Peas (New), 31*s.* to 34*s.*; Beans, 35*s.* to 37*s.*; and Oats, 18*s.* to 24*s.* per quarter.

Wisbech, Sept. 25.—Our market was scantily supplied with samples of all descriptions of Grain, which sold on equally as good terms as this day week. From the quantity of rain that has fallen in the last few days, it is feared the late sown Oats in the fen districts will be much injured.

Malton, Sept. 25.—Very little alteration has taken place since last week. Prices as follow:—Wheat, 54*s.* to 60*s.* per quarter, five stone per bushel. Oats, 11½*d.* to 12*d.* per stone.

AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of England and Wales, for the Week ended Sept. 18, 1824.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
London*	54	8	29	4	22	10
Essex	56	9	33	1	21	10
Kent	56	2	31	6	21	8
Sussex	56	8	30	0	21	4
Suffolk	51	0	31	3	23	3
Cambridgeshire	50	2	30	0	21	8
Norfolk	48	11	30	7	19	2
Lincolnshire	53	10	30	0	19	5
Yorkshire	55	3	24	1	20	6
Durham	61	10	0	0	27	1
Northumberland	54	3	30	10	22	7
Cumberland	52	8	33	4	24	5
Westmoreland	56	0	38	0	27	3
Lancashire	54	11	0	0	23	2
Cheshire	55	1	0	0	22	0
Gloucestershire	56	11	33	10	25	10
Somersetshire	56	6	25	0	20	7
Monmouthshire	59	7	36	4	19	4
Devonshire	57	0	30	0	18	8
Cornwall	58	2	33	10	24	0
Dorsetshire	54	8	31	0	21	11
Hampshire	54	7	30	0	22	11
North Wales	59	6	43	1	20	7
South Wales ...	55	4	33	7	19	1

* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.

COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &c.

Horncastle, Sept. 25.—Beef, 6s. 6d. to 7s. per stone of 14 lbs.; Mutton, 5d. to 6d.; Lamb, 6d. to 7d.; Veal, 6d. to 3d.; and Pork, 7d. per lb.

Malton, Sept. 25.—Meat in the shambles: Beef, 5½d. to 6½d.; Mutton, 5d. to 6d.; Lamb, 4½d. to 5½d.; and Veal, 6d. to 7d. per lb. Fresh Butter, 12d. to 13d. per lb.; Salt ditto, 43s. to 44s. per firkin. Bacon Sides, 7s. 6d. to 7s. 9d.; Hams, 8s. 6d. to 9s. per stone.

At *Morpeth* market, on Wednesday, there was a good supply of Cattle, Sheep, and Lambs; there being a great demand, prices were much the same.—Beef, 5s. to 5s. 6d.; Mutton, 5s. 3d. to 6s.; Lamb, 5s. to 5s. 10d. per stone, sinking offal.